

## REMARKS

Before this response, claims 1-15, 17-38 and 49-58 were pending. Applicant has canceled claims 6-15, 17-19, 25-27, 32-38, and 56-58, has amended claims 1, 5, 20, 24, 28-31, 49, and 53-55, and has added claims 59-61. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 20-24, 28-31, 49-55, and 59-61 are now pending.

**CLAIMS ARE SUPPORTED BY THE PROVISIONAL APPLICATION SERIAL NO.  
60/454,566**

Claims 1-5, 20-24, 28-31, 49-55, and 59-61

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the claimed subject matter was not fully supported by the disclosure of a the provisional application filed on March 17, 2003 and the that the earliest effective filing date on which applicant could rely was the filing date of the present application. Applicant has amended the claims and respectfully submits that the amended claims are fully supported by the provisional application. Accordingly the pending amended claims are entitled to the March 17, 2003 filing date which is before the earliest effective filing date of the Long patent. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable. Applicant does not concede that Long patent is prior art for the previously pending claims and accordingly reserves the right to present an argument that the Long patent is not prior art.

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites "a front face attachable to a golf club head body and having a front face center". Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the front face is shown in FIGs. 1, 2, and 4 and is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 1-5.

Claim 1 further recites "a back face having a back face center". Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the back face is shown in FIGs. 1, 2, and 4 and is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 3-6.

Claim 1 further recites "a weld securing at least a portion of a periphery of the back face to the front face to attach the front face to the back face only at the periphery of the back face". Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this

feature. For example, the weld is shown in FIG. 2 and is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 4-5.

Claim 1 further recites that the back face has “a back face stiffness greater than a front face stiffness of the front face at least at the back face center”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the provisional states that the construction “provides a back-up face that is stiffer in its center than the primary face” at page 2, lines 1-2.

#### Claims 2 and 21

Claim 2 recites that “the back face is configured to provide support to the front face to increase golf ball striking performance of the front face at least at one location on the front face other than a sweet spot”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the provisional states that the result of the construction is to manage the elastic deflection of the primary face so that the sweet spot is larger and more uniform. Page 1, lines 2-4.

#### Claims 3, 22, 29, and 51

Claim 3 recites that “the back face comprises a plurality of ridges extending away from the front face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the ridges are shown in FIGs. 1 and 2 and are discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 5- 6.

#### Claims 4, 23 and 52

Claim 4 recites that “the back face has a back face area less than a front face area of the front face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 show that the front face is larger than the back face.

#### Claims 5, 24 and 53

Claim 5 recites that “the back face includes areas along a surface facing the front face that do not contact the front face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 show embossed ridges that extend away from the front face and do not contact the front face.

Claim 20

Claim 20 recites a golf club head with a laminated golf club head face. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports all of the features recited in claim 20. For example, the specification discusses hollow golf club head bodies at paragraph 2. The laminated golf club head face is shown in FIGs 1, 2, and 4 and discussed throughout the provisional. As discussed above with reference to claim 1, the provisional application supports “a front face attached to the golf club head body and having a front face center”, “a back face having a back face center and having a back face stiffness greater than a front face stiffness of the front face at least at the back face center” and “a weld securing at least a portion of a periphery of the back face to the front face to attach the front face to the back face only at the periphery of the back face”.

Claim 28

Claim 28 recites that the “back face thickness varies across a cross section of the back face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the varying thickness is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 5-6.

Claim 30

Claim 30 recites that the “the front face forms a spring having a varying elastic response across the front face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the varying elastic response is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 8-9.

Claim 31

Claim 31 recites that the “back face forms another spring having a varying elastic response across the back face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the varying elastic response is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 8-9.

Claim 49

Claim 49 recites that the front face and the back face form two springs having a varying elastic response across the front face and the back face”. Applicant respectfully submits that the

provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, the varying elastic response is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 8-9.

Claim 50

Claim 50 recites that the "back face is secured to the front face only at the periphery of the back face". Applicant respectfully submits that the provisional application number 60/454,566 supports this feature. For example, a weld securing the periphery is shown in FIG. 2 and is discussed at least at page 1, par. 6, lines 4-5.

**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

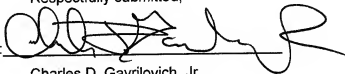
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unsolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Date:

Nov 06, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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